



pRide



WINTER 1999

THE NEWSLETTER BY AND FOR

RHODE ISLAND STATE EMPLOYEES

Rhode Island Opens Two One-Stop Career Centers

The State of Rhode Island has opened its first two One-Stop Career Centers called netWORKri: Where people and jobs connect. To celebrate the occasion, the employment and training partners of netWORKri recently toured the reconfigured Pawtucket and Bristol County, Rhode Island facilities.

The cornerstone of the new netWORKri centers is a large, state-of-the-art resource room equipped with computer work stations that have Internet access and resume writing capabilities. There is a bank of phones for customers to access the UI Call Center or to call prospective employers. Both centers have a job board, and a resource library containing books, videos and other job search materials. The facilities have large conference rooms to accommodate meetings, workshops, and training events. Employee cubicles are outfitted with new computers and are spacious to accommodate people with special needs. To ensure customer privacy, there are cubicles with high panels and closing doors available for customers who need to talk one-on-one with a counselor.



Sharing in the ribbon ceremony at the Pawtucket netWORKri Career Center: L to R: Sherry Campanelli, Donald Smail, Thomas Schreiber, Dr. Lee H. Arnold, Susan Sweet, Kathleen Partington.

The excitement and success accompanying the opening of the netWORKri Centers is best described in a letter to **Dr. Lee Arnold**, Director of the Department of Labor and Training from Kerin Burke, federal One-Stop representative from the U.S. Department of Labor: "I want to thank you, your staff, and your partners for inviting me to attend the grand opening of the Bristol County netWORKri Career Center. It was a privilege to be a part of such an exciting event and to be present for the culmination of several years of hard work. I was very impressed with the newly remodeled facility, the technology and the resource room. The infrastructure was state of the art, but the dedication and professionalism of the Center staff was equally impressive. Their pride, dedication and enthusiasm in their new jobs, and their shared commitment to the statewide netWORKri partnership, is what will sustain netWORKri in the future. Congratulations!" netWORKri is the result of a partnership of the following organizations: AFL-CIO, Community College of Rhode Island, Department of Elderly Affairs, Department of Human Services, Department of Labor and Training, Economic Development Corporation, Greater Rhode Island Private Industry Council, Greater Rhode Island Regional Employment

& Training Board, Human Resource Investment Council, Job Training Partnership Office, Northern Rhode Island Private Industry Council, Northern Rhode Island Regional Employment & Training Board, Office of Rehabilitation Services, Providence/Cranston Job Training Partnership, and the Rhode Island Department of Education.

— Contributed by Nancy Piffard

First Lady Thanks State Employees



The Governor and I are so proud of you. Rhode Island is the first and only state government to participate in Lee National Denim Day. On October 9, we raised over \$17,000 for breast and cervical cancer research, education and treatment. My grateful thanks go to those who responded with warm hearts and generous spirits. Half of the proceeds were distributed to the Rhode Island Breast and Cervical Cancer Fund. This will make it possible for uninsured and underinsured women to receive care and treatment to fight breast and cervical cancer. The funds will also be used for prevention activities and research.

The remaining proceeds were distributed to Linda K. Peterson, the Chairperson Elect, of The Susan B. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. The Komen Foundation is the largest private funder of breast cancer research. We also discussed the feasibility of Rhode Island sponsoring the 5K Race for the Cure in 1999. This would be another first for our State. My thanks to our participating state employees, the Rhode Island Breast Cancer Coalition, the Rhode Island Commission on Women, the YWCA of Greater Rhode Island, the Rhode Island Department of Health and Fulford Manufacturing Company for taking part in this activity and others during Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

— First Lady Marilyn J. Almond

Attention All State Employees (Active or Retired) who are Artists or Photographers!

The Atrium Gallery Art Committee, at One Capitol Hill, Providence (R.I. State Department of Administration Building), is now planning for the Second Annual Art and Photography Exhibit and you are invited to participate. The exhibit will run from February 3, through March 26, 1999.

All entries must be two-dimensional. Artwork may include drawings, paintings, mixed media, etc. Photographs must have an artistic intention. All work must be suitably framed. Only one work per person will be accepted and the Atrium Art Committee reserves all rights as to what and how the show is hung.

If you are interested in exhibiting, please contact Al Pointe, Department of Administration, One Capitol Hill, Providence, R.I. 02908 (222-2857), or reply by e-mail: apointe@planning.state.ri.us. As soon as we hear from you we will send you further details for the exhibit. If you exhibited last year you should be getting further information in the mail shortly!



President **Robert L. Carothers** and **Frank McGovern**, Director of the Office of Safety and Risk Management, are proud to announce that URI was recently one of the recipients of DEM's "Rhode Island Recycles Day Award." **Nancy Hawksley**, Recycling Coordinator, accepted the award from Lt. Governor **Bernard Jackvony** and DEM Director **Andy McLeod** at a State House Ceremony in October. The Rhode Island Department of Environmental

Management's Ocean State Cleanup and Recycling Program annually recognizes communities and/or organizations throughout the State that have excelled in solid waste reduction and recycling efforts. The University's Office of Waste Reduction and Recycling was created by President Robert L. Carothers in 1997 in response to the Open Space/Common Agenda forum. Historically, the University's (recycling) diversion rate has been less than ten percent. Since the inception of the Office of Waste Reduction and Recycling, the diversion rate has increased to fifteen percent and it is anticipated that it will continue to increase by five percent a year. Members of the WR&R student staff are: **Zack Peloquin, Beth Ridout, Stacy Lynch, Amber Moreau, Pete Macedo, and Lynn Williams**. Many thanks to all who have contributed to the success of URI's recycling program. In related news, URI students modeled clothing made from recycled materials at the 2nd Annual DEM America/ Rhode Island Recycles Day fashion show at Rhode Island Mall in mid-November. In addition, **Dr. Yvette Harps-Logan**, URI Textiles, Fashion Merchandising & Design Associate Professor and the faculty supervisor of the URI Fashion Merchandising Society, and her class worked with the Department of Environmental Management to write the script for the fashion show. The show was held in conjunction with America/Rhode Island Recycles Day which was celebrated on November 15.

Three new majors, approved by President Carothers, URI's Faculty Senate, and the Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education, are now being offered by URI. The Public Relations major, offered through URI's College of Arts and Sciences, was initiated in response to a strong demand from students and public relations professionals who seek graduates with a concentration in the discipline. The African and African-American Studies major, which will be a joint program with Rhode Island College and offered through URI's College of Arts and Sciences, will give students a wider variety of course offerings without the added costs of two separate majors at each institution. The third new major, International Business, is offered through URI's College of Business Administration. It will emphasize second-language learning and make our students more marketable after graduation.

The family of the late **George Wiley**, a 1953 URI alumnus, has established an endowed scholarship in his memory. The scholarship will be awarded annually beginning in 1999 to an African-American student enrolled in the College of Arts and Sciences who demonstrates an interest in community service, government, or issues of social concern. While at URI, Wiley was a chemistry major and a student leader. He was the first African-American to join a fraternity and the first to graduate with a chemistry degree. He earned a Ph.D from Cornell in 1957 and did postgraduate work at UCLA and Berkeley. Wiley became a faculty member at Syracuse University where he became involved with the efforts of CORE (the Congress for Racial Equality) to overcome racial segregation in schools and other forms of discrimination against African-Americans and other minority citizens. He then became the associate director of the national CORE office, founded the National Welfare Rights Organization, and was involved in organizing the Movement for Economic Justice. George Wiley was one of the first four people inducted into URI's Multicultural Hall of Fame at dedication ceremonies for URI's new Multicultural Center. Anyone interested in donating to the Wiley Scholarship Fund may send their contribution to the URI Foundation — George Wiley Endowed Scholarship #4403, attention **Tom Zorabedian**, Dean's Office, 257 Chafee, Kingston, RI 02881-0806. For further information about the scholarship, contact Zorabedian at 401-874-2853.

September marked the opening of the newest building on campus — the Multicultural Center. The Center will serve as the administrative, social, and educational facility for various cultural student organizations and service programs. At the opening, four people were inducted into the Multicultural Center's Hall of Fame: the late **George Wiley**; **Leo F. DiMaio**, Director and one of the founders of URI's Special Programs for Talent Development; **Jose Manuel Gonzales**, Director of Equity and Access for the Providence School Department, and the late **Noreen Coachman**, a radiation oncologist. Hanging in the entrance to the Multicultural Center are nine handmade quilts comprised of 190 blocks. The quilts, designed and handmade by the University community, depict a personal anecdote of friendship, choices and heritage.



FROM THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

Executive Orders

- 98-9** 8-3-98 Waiver of entrance fees at state beaches.
- 98-10** 8-28-98 Transfer of the Division of Substance Abuse to the Department of MHRH
- 98-11** 9-22-98 Expansion of Membership and transfer of MBE Enterprise Commission to enhance its effectiveness.
- 98-12** 10-19-98 Establishes commission to study the Early Intervention Program.

For more information or copies of Executive Orders, call the **Office of the Executive Counsel, 222-2080, Ext. 258**.

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Deadline for contributions to the Spring issue is March 10, 1999.

The State of Rhode Island is an equal opportunity employer and reasonable accommodations will be provided. For assistance, call EEO Office at 222-3999. (TDD 222-6144).

pRIde in performance



Kathleen Bello, a Senior Legislative Budget Analyst on the House Fiscal Advisory Staff of the R.I. General Assembly and a graduate in 1975 of Providence College's first four-year coeducational class, has been elected President of the Providence College National Alumni Association which represents more than 32,000 alumni. Ms. Bello, who assumed the 1998/1999 presidency in July, is only the second woman to hold the position. Her election to the Alumni Association Presidency follows by only a few months her winning in May of the 1998 Mal Brown Award, the highest recognition given a PC alumni for love and loyalty to Providence College.



Director Jay G. Lindgren, Jr. (3rd from right) and Committee Chairperson Mark Lyman (on left) present Exceptional Peer Awards to DCYF staff.

At the second annual awards ceremony, seven DCYF staff members, selected by their peers, were recognized for their contributions to the DCYF mission. Honored were: **John Abbate, Joseph Cahill, Barbara Dobbyn, Ethel Kettle, Julia Labossiere, Cindy Neil and Charles Pearson.**

— contributed by Jane Grenier

The Rhode Island Lottery is the first state agency to receive the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) of the United States and Canada. The certificate is the highest form of recognition in the area of government accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by the Rhode Island Lottery and its management.

— contributed by Joe DeOrsey

Susan L. Lieb, President of the National Eligibility Workers Association (NEW), co-chaired and presided over the National Eligibility Workers Association's 23rd Annual Training Conference held in Providence recently. NEW is the professional organization dedicated to improving the knowledge, skills, and professionalism of all eligibility professionals. Mrs. Lieb is Regional Manager for Fields Operations for Region 1 with the R.I. Department of Human Services.



L to R: Diana Hudson, MHRH Director A. Kathryn Power, and Daniel Magner.

At a recent ceremony, MHRH Director **A. Kathryn Power** awarded the department's Pinnacle Award for Valor to **Daniel Magner** and **Diana Hudson**, both institutional attendants in the Adult Psychiatric Services Unit of the Eleanor Slater Hospital, Howard Center, Cranston. On June 16, the two hospital employees responded to a patient in distress. A fire in the patient's bed was spreading rapidly, and thick black smoke

filled her room. Distraught, she resisted the attempts of Hudson and Magner to bring her to safety. The employees persisted and were able to remove the patient from the room, sustaining minor burns and suffering the results of smoke inhalation. Said Director Power, "The response of these two employees which included courage and common sense while in the midst of a dangerous crisis, saved the life of the patient, and helped ensure the safety of everyone else in the ward at that time. I am grateful to know that the people that I rely on every day to provide quality care are so dedicated and fully capable of taking decisive actions during an emergency which avoided disastrous consequences. I am very proud of Diana Hudson and Daniel Magner, and am pleased to honor them with our Department's Pinnacle Award for Valor." The MHRH Pinnacle Award for Valor was established in 1977 to recognize persons "who during a crisis situation and under extraordinary circumstances which may be life threatening, take action requiring fortitude, focused thinking and physical stamina in order to preserve the well-being of members of the MHRH Community." Magner and Hudson are the third and fourth employees to receive the award. Valerie MacKenzie and Hugh Friel received it for their respective heroic actions in 1997.

State Workers' Second Annual Golf Tournament Benefits SECA

The Richmond Country Club was the setting for the recent Howard Center Second Annual Golf Tournament to benefit the State Employees Charitable Appeal (SECA) Campaign.

Organized by **Denise Breckel**, coordinator of community facilities construction for the Department of Human Services, and **Tony Venditti**, an electrician with the Department of MHRH, the tournament raised \$1,000 for SECA.

More than 148 golfers, the majority of whom are state employees, participated in the tournament, a significant increase over last year's 88 golfers. This year, participants enjoyed 18-holes of golf played in a four-player scramble format with a shotgun start. A dinner of prime rib or baked stuffed chicken followed the round of golf. Prizes were awarded for the first, second and third place teams with the best scores; the two golfers (a male and a female) who completed the longest drive; and the golfer who was able to get closest to the pin.

First place winners in the "best score" category were the foursome of **Dennis Lynch, Marlene McCarthy-Touhy**, and **Michele Mallozi** of the Department of Administration, and **Linda Lynch** of MHRH. Members of this winning foursome received a quartz clock and golf pen.

Sponsors of the tournament include **AA Wrecking & Asbestos Abatement, A-Team Petroleum, Athenian Deli, Barry HAVC, Cassarino's Restaurant, Cranston Gun & Coin, Crest Manufacturing, Dunkin Donuts, East Side Food Mart, IDK Promotional Specialty Co., JMJ Construction Co., Michelangelo's Deli Express, Motiva Enterprises LLC, Nabisco, NAGE Local 79, On the Rocks, Standard Motor Products/East Side Services**, and **Thomas F. Ginnerty**.

Donations to the tournament were also made by the following companies: **Arizona Iced Tea, Auto Show Volvo, Coca-Cola of Providence, Culinary Affair, Deka Battery Co., Dial Battery, McLaughlin & Moran, Nabisco, Premier Auto Ware, Richmond Country Club, Tenneco Automotive, Monroe/Walker, Tiffany's (Angela Manzo) and Tire Pros.**

Next year's tournament has already been scheduled, and will take place on Friday, October 1, 1999, at the Richmond Country Club.

— contributed by Traci Manni, DHS

HOME ENERGY EXPO '99

FREE Admission

Sunday, February 7, 1999 — 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Rhode Island Convention Center
One Sabin St., Providence, RI



**LEAD POISONING CAN WREAK HAVOC ON A CHILD'S NERVOUS SYSTEM.
NOT TO MENTION A PARENT'S.**

Jennifer O'Connell was in a panic. She had just learned her infant daughter Beth's lead levels were elevated. A flood of questions ran through her mind: Will my baby have nervous system damage? Is my baby daughter going to be okay?

And then the phone rang. It was her daughter's physician, Dr. Pleasants. Questions, emotions spilled out of Jennifer. Dr. Pleasants listened and answered each question. He went over every detail of Beth's case. He even gave her phone numbers to call to learn more about preventing lead contamination.

And then Dr. Pleasants provided Jennifer O'Connell with the most vital piece of information of all, that her baby girl was going to be okay.

Dr. Pleasants is just one of the many devoted doctors who practice in our health centers. Is your doctor one of them?

←.....The **HEALTH CENTERS** of.....→



Lincoln Health Center
1 Commerce Street, Lincoln, RI
(401) 334-3800



Swansea Health Center
440 Swansea Mall Dr., Swansea, MA
(508) 677-3100



Plainville Health Center
60 Messenger Street, Plainville, MA
(508) 643-1600



Providence Health Center
1 Hoppin Street, Providence, RI
(401) 331-3000



Warwick Health Center
400 Bald Hill Road, Warwick, RI
(401) 732-0300

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1999

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1999 State Holiday Celebrations

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|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| New Year's Day | - | Friday, January 1 |
| Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday | - | Monday, January 18 |
| Memorial Day | - | Monday, May 31 |
| Independence Day | - | Sunday, July 4 (State employees will celebrate on Monday, July 5) |
| Victory Day | - | Monday, August 9 |
| Labor Day | - | Monday, September 6 |
| Columbus Day | - | Monday, October 11 |
| Veterans' Day | - | Thursday, November 11 |
| Thanksgiving Day | - | Thursday, November 25 |
| Christmas Day | - | Saturday, December 25 (State employees will celebrate on Monday, December 27) |



Circled Days Indicate Pay Day for State Employees